

Preliminary Amendment
U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/926,029

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 8-10 are pending in this application, of which claims 8-9 have been amended. Claims 1-3 are withdrawn from consideration and claims 4-7 have been canceled. Claim 10 is newly added by this amendment.

In the Decision on Appeal dated June 23, 2006, the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, rejection of claims 8-9 was reversed and the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 8-9 was sustained.

None of the cited references teaches, mentions or suggests at least four rectangularly-shaped notches disposed continuously about a circumference of the inside surface of the shaft member.

Accordingly, claims 8 and 9 have been amended, and claim 10 has been newly added to recite these distinctions.


The above amendments are believed to place the claims in proper condition for further examination. Early and favorable action is awaited.

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In the event that any fees are due in connection with this paper, please charge our Deposit
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Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: Request for Continued Examination
Check in the amount of \$790.00

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